

## Red Cross canteen provides service with a smile

By Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** – After a rough day at work, servicemembers want to relax. The tent or the gym may get a little old, but inside the Joint Processing and Readiness Center is the American Red Cross station.

The main mission of the Bagram ARC is to provide emergency communications between servicemembers and home. Not only does the team assist Bagram, they also assist the entire northern portion of Afghanistan and all of Uzbekistan, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan.

They also carry some items from the States.

See **RED CROSS**, Page 3



Photo by Spc. Karlene E. Hemerly-Fluck, 109<sup>th</sup> Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

### Supplying education...

*Deh Rawood children smile as they gather up their new school supplies in the village of Kurkak. Supplies were given by the 450<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), Riverdale, Md. Civil Affairs Team-A 11.*

## Air Force team adopts local school

By Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** – It was the unimaginable plight of the local children that spawned the latest in a long line of humanitarian visits to local villages.

Air Force Capt. Michael Friebe, critical care nurse, Critical Care Aeromedical Transport Team, Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, his family and the Shino family from Sandy, Utah donated approximately \$1,000 of school supplies for distribution.

Additionally, an interpreter, Najla Farzana, who also teaches at the boys school, had donations sent from her children's school, Warwick Elementary School, Freemont, Calif. They sent almost 40 boxes.

The supplies were distributed to the Bagram Air Base Boys School and the

Bagram Air Base Girls School Saturday.

"I had the opportunity to volunteer at the Combat Support Hospital Intensive Care Unit here. It was there that I first saw the plight of the local children, many of them knowing all too well the hardships that most of us can never imagine. You also can't help but feel for the children pushing their arms through the ribbon wire attempting to sell things to passing soldiers. You wish that they were in school or playing soccer instead of having to scrape out an existence," said Friebe, through e-mail.

"The 'Freedom Watch' carried a short piece on the school that the military was helping to build so my first impulse was to see how they were doing and to see if there was anything that I could do to help," he added.

The response Friebe received was that there was a shortage of school supplies so

anything donated would help.

All of the funds were donated by the Friebe family and the Shino family. Madison Shino and her third-grade class of Granite Elementary School in Sandy, Utah, were instrumental in gathering the donations and inspiring the project, according to Friebe.

Approximately 3,300 boys and men attend the boys school ranging in age from 7-32. There are about 800 girls who attend the girls school, but they only attend until eighth grade, because the men aren't comfortable teaching older girls. There are also 200 kindergartners who attend school in another building.

Friebe also got help through the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

"I approached AAFES with the idea of purchasing school supplies through them;

See **AF ADOPTION**, Page 3

# World News (Compiled from CNN.com)

## Coalition grip tightens

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — With the fate of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein still a mystery, Pentagon officials said Tuesday coalition forces controlled the skies over Iraq and continued to degrade Iraqi ground forces.

U.S. forces were moving “at will” within and around Baghdad, Pentagon officials said, describing the capital city as increasingly isolated.

“We are sitting in the center of the city with almost an armor brigade right now, which is extraordinary,” said Maj. Gen. Stanley McChrystal.

McChrystal said Saddam’s Republican Guard units either were ignoring orders or were incapable of carrying them out.

But, he said clashes with elements of the Special Republican Guard have resulted in “fierce fights” and “significant engagements” from which U.S. forces have emerged “very successful.”

## U.S. crew missing after crash

**DOHA, Qatar** — Coalition forces searched Tuesday for two crew members of a U.S. Air Force F-15E Strike Eagle fighter that went down over Iraq, U.S. military officials said.

The plane went down Monday in the vicinity of Tikrit, Saddam Hussein’s ancestral homeland and an area where the U.S.-led coalition does not have many forces.

The plane went down at approximately 3:30 a.m. local time Monday (7:30 p.m. EDT Sunday), the U.S. Central Command said.

Missing were the plane’s pilot and its weapons officer, officials said.

“The cause of the incident is unknown at this time and is being investigated,” Central Command said.

## B-1 ordered to stike Baghdad leadership target quickly

**WASHINGTON** — AB-1 bomber patrolling Baghdad Monday was ordered to hit a “priority leadership target” quickly and launch specially designed bombs on a building where Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was thought to be, U.S. officials said Tuesday.



*People crawl over rubble in Baghdad’s Mansour neighborhood after Monday’s strike.*

Acting on directives from forward air controllers, the U.S. warplane dropped four 2,000-pound bombs at 3 p.m. Monday (7 a.m. EST) in Baghdad’s Mansour neighborhood.

Mansour is the same area where Saddam — or a body double — was shown working a crowd Friday on Arab TV networks. The houses hit in the strike were not near the parts of Mansour pictured on the tape, sources told CNN.

Sources said the explosion killed nine people, wounded 13 and destroyed apartments and a nearby restaurant. U.S. officials said they do not know whether Saddam or his two sons, Uday and Qusay, also suspected to have been in the building, died in the strike.

## U.S. probes fate of pilot downed in 1991

**WASHINGTON** — A team of CIA and Defense Intelligence Agency analysts is preparing to enter Iraq to investigate the fate of Navy Capt. Michael Scott Speicher, shot down over Iraq on the first day of the first Persian Gulf War in January 1991, U.S. officials said Tuesday.

Speicher was once listed as “killed in action,” but last year the Navy changed his status to “missing-captured.”

The change was based on several factors, including:

- An analysis of the wreckage of his F/A-18 Hornet concluded he survived the initial damage to the aircraft and his ejection out of it.
- His flight suit, found near the wreckage and turned over by Iraq, showed no signs of a crash impact.

- A report from a Red Cross team that investigated the wreckage found the cockpit had been expertly dismantled; and intelligence information that suggested the Iraqi government might be able to account for him.

Baghdad has denied Speicher survived the attack.

## U.S. attacks kill three journalists

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — U.S. military attacks killed three journalists in two different buildings in Baghdad Tuesday, raising questions about the tactics of U.S. troops trying to take control of the Iraqi capital.

A U.S. attack on the Palestine Hotel killed Reuters cameraman Taras Protsyuk, 35, a Ukrainian national based in Warsaw, Poland, the news agency said. It also said three other employees were wounded in the attack. Spanish television network Telecinco cameraman Jose Couso also was killed, according to Telecinco. Couso died during surgery.

Separately, Al-Jazeera television reporter Tariq Ayoub was killed at the Arab language network’s facilities on the other side of the Tigris River from the Palestine Hotel, near Iraq’s Ministry of Information. Three other Al-Jazeera employees were wounded in the strikes, the network reported.

## Coalition forces moving ‘at will’ in and around Baghdad

**WASHINGTON** — With Saddam Hussein’s fate a mystery following the bombing of an Iraqi leadership target, Pentagon officials said Tuesday that coalition forces are moving “at will” within and around Baghdad, describing the capital city as isolated.

At the same time, Pentagon officials said Saddam’s regime still controls elements of the Iraqi military, specifically Special Republican Guard units and death squads, even though command and control has deteriorated.

“There are still some orders being given by somebody. They don’t seem to be the best of orders. They don’t seem to be very well coordinated,” said Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke.





Photo by Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

*Maria Schizas-Price, Post Exchange manager, distributes notebooks to the Afghan class she has adopted.*

## AF ADOPTION, from Page 1 —

AAFES stepped up to the plate. Maria Schizas-Price, the Bagram PX manager, was instrumental in seeing that the children received the much needed school supplies,” said Friebel.

Friebel asked what the school needed and was given a list. Of this list, he purchased white boards with extra markers, globes, elementary English books, numerous children’s books for all grade levels, encyclopedias, dictionaries, science books, math books, flash cards, atlases, world wall maps, cases of notebooks, pencils and pens. Warwick donated books, clothes and other school supplies.

The books donated to the school included picture books, which Farzana thinks is very useful for these children.

“Pictures weren’t allowed during the Taliban so I’ll teach them about lions and tigers and things like that and they will ask me what one looks like. They don’t know because they have never seen one, not even a picture,” she said.

Friebel had to relocate before the supplies could be delivered; however, Farzana and Schizas-Price were able to

bring the supplies to the school.

“(The donation) went very well. The school supplies are never enough – we always run out. We’re not going to reach everyone so we try to start with the most needy. Quite a few of these children are orphans so we start with them, then the poor children and finally the wealthier, those who can afford supplies,” said Farzana.

“I hope the children that don’t attend school will see all this ‘cool stuff’ coming in and want to come to school and learn,” Farzana added.

Schizas-Price was just excited to see the children when the supplies were donated.

“I love to see the children. I just wanted a chance to see their faces – their happy faces,” she said.

Despite being staged at another location, Friebel hopes to continue his association with the school. Upon returning home to San Antonio he plans to start another Adopt-a-School program.

Farzana thinks this was a great influence on encouraging more donations.

“There is a saying in Afghanistan, ‘Each drop will turn into a river,’ and I think that is what’s happening.”

## RED CROSS, from Page 1 —

“We bring a little bit of home,” said Cecilia Baize, station manager.

“I could use Oreo cookies today,” a soldier may come in and say. Like Santa Claus at Christmas time, the Red Cross hands out goodies, coffee and toiletries, among other things.

“We try to be a friendly face,” said Baize. The friendliness is evident by soldiers who hang out at the station to tell Baize some things on their minds or just “hello.”

“I feel like a bar tender sometimes,” said Baize, who has been with the ARC for 16 years now.

She said it is a fulfilling assignment for the two-person team here.

Just like servicemembers, the team deployed through the Continental United States Replacement Center at Fort Benning, Ga.

The team has little time off; working 12-hour shifts seven days a week.

Every day servicemembers grab free candy, cookies, CDs, blank note cards and popcorn. Everything is donated through the American public, with the ARC serving as an alleyway for family member and organization contributions, said Baize.

The ARC also interacts with soldiers during deployments.

In March, the team had an overload of snacks. They decided the best way to give it to the troops would be to take it directly to them.

They stuffed 60 water bottle water boxes full of treats and baby wipes, and spent an entire day distributing them to each guard tower of Bagram. “They were appreciative and surprised,” said Baize.

“(In) other deployments we had a Trivial Pursuit night. There is a possibility something like that could be started (here) by this summer,” said Baize.

In light of Easter approaching, the Bagram ARC is currently receiving lots of Easter paraphernalia.

Bunny suits, cellophane, candy and baskets will be seen throughout Bagram soon, said Baize. She said she plans to have decorations up in the chow halls and candy dispersed to servicemembers. So, expect to receive candy while leaving the chapel or walking to work sometime soon.

# Coalition medics provide care to Iraqi soldiers, civilians

By Kathleen T. Rhem  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** – American combat medics are treating scores of Iraqi civilians and service members throughout that country, the Pentagon's chief spokeswoman said today.

"There are nearly 300 wounded Iraqi soldiers and civilians being treated in coalition hospitals, and many more are being treated by our medics on the battlefield," Torie Clarke, assistant defense secretary for public affairs, said in a Pentagon briefing today.

She added that 75 Iraqi prisoners of war are being treated "for broken bones, gunshots and shrapnel wounds" aboard the hospital ship USNS Comfort in the Northern Arabian Gulf. The Comfort is a 1,000-bed floating trauma center with dozens of doctors and nurses, its own translators and on-board operating rooms.

During the briefing, Clarke showed a short video that included shots of American military medical personnel treating several Iraqi children, a civilian woman and an elderly man for illnesses.

"The children are the ones who can touch your hearts the most," Clarke said in relaying the tale of a badly burned Iraqi 6-month-old girl who British forces airlifted to Liverpool, England, for medical treatment. She said the child sustained her injuries in a house fire "unrelated to any fighting."

She also told of an Iraqi prisoner receiving medical care at a U.S. Navy facility who was so impressed by the humane treatment he received that he decided to assist the coalition by providing information about enemy positions in the southern port city of Umm Qasr.

"He told our medical personnel that in all of his 27 years he had never been treated with such care and respect," Clarke said of the young Iraqi.

## Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "Enemy at the Gates." During the WWII battle of Stalingrad, two snipers, a Russian and a German, are locked in a battle of wills and marksmanship, while the Russian is boosted to the status of hero by a political official.

Tomorrow's movie will be "The Others."



## Local weather

### TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

|                    | <i>Today</i>                      | <i>Thursday</i>                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Bagram:</b>     | Dusty<br>H: 84F<br>L: 50F         | Dusty<br>H: 82F<br>L: 46F         |
| <b>Kandahar:</b>   | Haze<br>H: 93F<br>L: 57F          | Haze<br>H: 91F<br>L: 59F          |
| <b>Kabul:</b>      | Partly cloudy<br>H: 84F<br>L: 50F | Haze<br>H: 77F<br>L: 48F          |
| <b>Uzbekistan:</b> | Haze<br>H: 89F<br>L: 59F          | Mostly cloudy<br>H: 91F<br>L: 59F |

*Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team*

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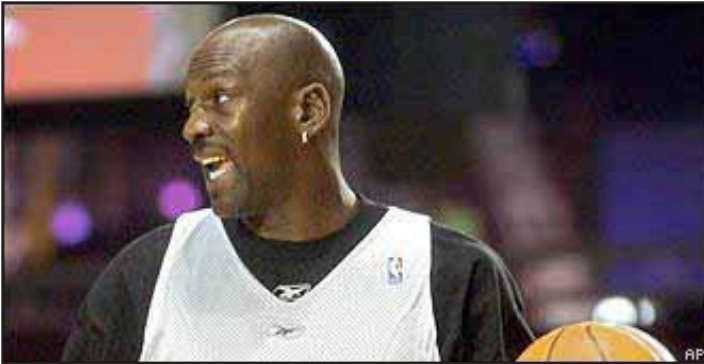
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# Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)



*Jordan blamed the media for 'getting things rolling' about the Bulls.*

## Jordan wants to finish job with Wiz

**CLEVELAND** — Michael Jordan helped build the Chicago Bulls into NBA champions once before. He doesn't seem to be in any hurry to try to do it again.

Jordan said Tuesday that he has no interest now in replacing Jerry Krause, who unexpectedly resigned as Chicago's general manager because of health problems.

"Washington is where I started and where I want to finish" as an executive, Jordan said at a morning shootaround before the Wizards' game at the Cavaliers. "It's unfortunate about Jerry. Obviously, his health is the most important thing."

Jordan plans to retire at the end of this season, and has indicated he will return to the Wizards' front office.

However, he is not contractually bound to Washington, and the

GM opening in Chicago has led to more speculation Jordan will return to the Bulls. His family still lives in Chicago.

Jordan, though, says his mind is squarely on the Wizards, who entered Tuesday two games behind Milwaukee for the last playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

"Personally, I haven't thought about Chicago," he said. "I know people have asked in the past, 'What if?' I told them at the time that my focus has been here and will be here.

"I haven't talked to anyone on that staff. You guys are more or less getting things rolling. My focus is right now trying to get this team in the playoffs, and secondly, making sure this franchise is moving in the right direction."

## Iverson scores 37 points

**PHILADELPHIA** — Allen Iverson's knee is doing just fine.

Iverson, playing despite left knee bursitis, had 37 points and eight assists, leading the Philadelphia 76ers to a 91-74 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Tuesday night.

"It's not getting any better, but it's not getting any worse," Iverson said. "I'm feeling the same. It keeps getting bigger. They talked about draining it today, but I didn't let it happen."

Kenny Thomas added 16 points and 15 rebounds for Philadelphia, which snapped a two-game losing skid and moved within two games of Atlantic Division-leading New Jersey, the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference.

Clifford Robinson had 16 points and Richard Hamilton added 14 for Detroit, which lost its fourth straight game.

The Central Division-leading Pistons entered the night 1½ games ahead of Indiana. They trail the Nets by one game.

"They did a great job penetrating the defense," Robinson said. "We couldn't keep Iverson in front of us and that hurt."

## Stern wants settlement in 10 days

**NEW YORK** — NBA commissioner David Stern told WNBA players Tuesday that unless they settle their contract dispute by April 18, the 2003 season for the women's league will not be played.

"We want to get a deal and work with the players," said Stern, announcing at the same time that his league had voted an additional \$12 million to subsidize its women's affiliate. "But if that's not to be, it's not to be. We'll know in the next 10 days if there will be a WNBA season."

That came as no surprise to the players.



## 2002 NBA standings

| Eastern Conference |       | Western Conference |       |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| <b>Atlantic</b>    |       | <b>Midwest</b>     |       |
| (1x)New Jersey     | 48-29 | (1x)Dallas         | 57-19 |
| (3x)Philadelphia   | 46-31 | (3x)San Antonio    | 57-20 |
| (6)Boston          | 41-36 | (5x)Minnesota      | 48-30 |
| (7)Orlando         | 39-38 | (7)Utah            | 45-32 |
| Washington         | 36-41 | Houston            | 40-38 |
| <b>Central</b>     |       | <b>Pacific</b>     |       |
| (2x)Detroit        | 47-30 | (2x)Sacramento     | 56-22 |
| (4x)Indiana        | 46-32 | (4x)Portland       | 48-29 |
| (5x)New Orleans    | 42-35 | (6)L.A. Lakers     | 46-31 |
| (8)Milwaukee       | 38-40 | (8)Phoenix         | 41-36 |
| Atlanta            | 31-46 | Seattle            | 38-38 |



x = clinched playoff berth.



## SPORTS, from Page 5

"We anticipated this coming out. It was just a question of what the day was going to be," Houston Comets guard Sonja Henning, president of the WNBA Players Association, said in an interview Tuesday with Houston television station KRIV. "We knew there would be a deadline set.

"It's not the sort of thing where we are suddenly going to cave in and say, 'Well, we've got to get a deal done, so let's get a deal done by the deadline.' The deadline, if anything, puts more fire under their feet than ours."

Henning said she doesn't believe the season, or the league, is in jeopardy.

Calls by The Associated Press to the union were not immediately returned.

### Man claimed he gave Al nickname

**PHILADELPHIA** — A judge dismissed a lawsuit by a man who contended he gave Allen Iverson the nickname "The Answer" and sought royalties for its use on merchandise.

Jamil Blackmon said the Philadelphia 76ers' star had reneged on a promise that Blackmon would receive 25 percent of the proceeds from use of "The Answer." The nickname adorns a popular line of Reebok basketball shoes and is incorporated into other products.

U.S. District Judge Mary McLaughlin ruled Blackmon and Iverson never entered a valid contract, and the nickname wasn't novel enough to support a legal argument that Iverson misappropriated it.

"A lot of people give Allen a penny and they want back a dollar," Tom Shuttleworth, one of Iverson's attorneys, said Tuesday.

Blackmon's suit could have been worth millions of dollars. Iverson has a lifetime endorsement and marketing contract with Reebok. His signature shoe, "The Answer," has been a top seller since its inception in the late 1990s.

The suit contended Blackmon gave Iverson his nickname in July 1994. He suggested that the guard, then a star at Georgetown, would be "The Answer" to any of the NBA's problems. Blackmon said he befriended Iverson in Hampton, Va., in the late 1980s.

### Hearn first broadcaster to gain election

**NEW ORLEANS** — Robert Parish and James Worthy played against each other during the fierce Celtics-Lakers rivalry of the 1980s and were among the 50 greatest players in NBA history.

On Monday, Parish and Worthy became teammates, elected together to the Basketball Hall of Fame.

"I'm still floating, trying to grasp the impact," Parish said. "When I'm inducted I'll think of all my teammates."

Also chosen for the basketball shrine were Meadowlark Lemon of the Harlem Globetrotters, NBA pioneer Earl Lloyd, longtime Louisiana Tech women's coach Leon Barmore, Italian player Dino Meneghin and the late Chick Hearn, who broadcast 3,338 consecutive Laker games.

The seven were selected from a record group of 30 finalists and will be inducted in early September in Springfield, Mass.

Parish holds the NBA record for seasons (21) and games (1,611). He spent 14 seasons with the Celtics and became a star in Boston after six seasons with Golden State.

"It would have been a short career if I had not been traded to Boston," he said. "I was rejuvenated in Boston."

### Rickert expects to go in first round

**MINNEAPOLIS** — Ready or not, Rick Rickert is heading for the pros.

As expected by most people in and around the Minnesota men's basketball program, Rickert announced Tuesday he would make himself available for the NBA draft after two seasons with the Gophers.

So is he ready for the rigors of an 82-game season, big enough to bang underneath and fast enough to play outside?

"The way the draft is set up," coach Dan Monson said, "it's not about being ready.

"You look at it and see very few guys where you would say, 'Yeah, they're ready.' That's our job as college coaches, to get our players to that level.

Monson believes he's done that.

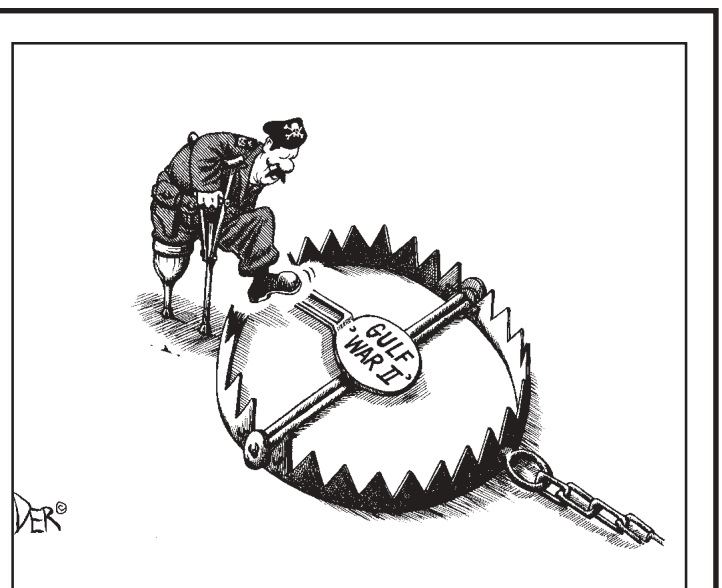
"I know he's going to be a great NBA player," he said.

Rickert won't immediately hire an agent, relying for now on his father, Lew, to set up workouts with teams and network the pro basketball world for insight.

That leaves Rickert the option of returning to the Gophers for his junior season if he doesn't sign with an agent before the June 19 deadline for withdrawing from the draft. But nobody is anticipating that.

"He's not approaching this as it's not going to work out," Monson said. "We all plan on him having success."

The draft is June 26, and Rickert said he thinks he'll be taken in the first round somewhere between pick Nos. 10 and 17.



By Lambert Der

## Laugh Support